

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3 and 9-11 are amended, and claims 17 and 18 are added. No new matter is added.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)/§103(a)

Claims 1, 4-9 and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,020,890 to Kohda (hereinafter "Kohda"), and claims 2-3 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kohda in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,710,775 to Tulman (hereinafter "Tulman"). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Kohda fails to disclose each and every features recited in the rejection claims, as amended. For example, Kohda fails to disclose an image display method to display images on a plurality of display surfaces by using a plurality of inner surfaces of a polyhedron as the display surfaces, the image display method comprising dividing an image to be displayed in accordance with plurality of display surfaces; generating images for the plurality of display surfaces so that a plurality of divided images are expressed by using a perspective method having one vanishing point for each of the plurality of display surfaces; and displaying the generated images on the plurality of display surfaces, as recited in amended claim 1.

Additionally, Kohda fails to disclose an image display device to display images on a plurality of display surfaces by using a plurality of inner surfaces of a polyhedron as the display surfaces, the image display device comprising an image dividing device to divide an image to be displayed in accordance with the plurality of display surfaces; an image generating device to generate images for the plurality of display surfaces so that a plurality of divided images are expressed by using a perspective method having one vanishing point for each of the plurality of display surfaces; and an image display device to display the images obtained by the image processing device on each of the display surfaces, as recited in amended claim 9.

The Office Action asserts (in-part) that Kohda discloses a plurality of display screens on which an image is displayed by projecting a three-dimensional computer graphics model on a two-dimensional projection plane. Although Kohda discloses the use of a plurality of display surfaces, Kohda does not disclose the features recited in the claims as amended. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 4-9 and 12-16 is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 2-3 and 10-11, although the Office Action alleges that Tulman discloses displaying images on a two dimensional surface, in rejecting claims 2 and 3, Tulman does not teach the features recited in the amended claims. Instead, Tulman teaches a single display surface (col. 1, line 37-39) on which the perspective system may be partially displayed, with the remaining portion of the perspective system being viewable by panning a viewing window (Col. 3, line 54-63). The Office Action asserts that Fig. 6 of Tulman discloses a perspective system (204) including a vanishing point for the object rendered on the screen. Figure 6 depicts only a single display screen, showing a two-point perspective system. Figure 6 does not teach, nor suggest, the use of a plurality of display screens having one vanishing point for each of the plurality of display surfaces. In fact, Tulman is silent regarding the disclosure or teaching of one vanishing point for each of the plurality of display surfaces.

MPEP §2143.01 instructs "Although a prior art device may be capable of being modified to run the way the apparatus is claimed, there must be a suggestion or motivation in the references to do so." MPEP §2143.01 further instructs that, "A statement that modifications of the prior art to meet the claimed invention would have been 'well within the ordinary skill of the art' at the time the claimed invention was made' because the references relied upon teach that all aspects of the claimed invention were individually known in the art is not sufficient to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness without some objective reason to combine the teachings of the references."

Moreover, claims 2, 3, 10 and 11 are allowable for at least their dependence on their respective independent claims for the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features recited therein. Therefore, the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2, 3, 10 and 11 is respectfully requested.

II. New Claims

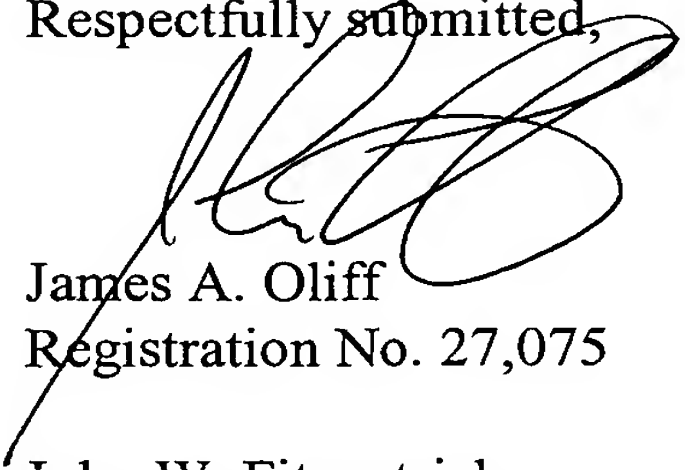
None of the applied references, whether considered alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the features recited in claims 17 and 18. For example, the combination of references fails to disclose or suggest an image display method to display images on display surfaces by using a plurality of inner surfaces of a polyhedron as the display surfaces, the image display method comprising obtaining how images are displayed on each of the display surfaces so that the images become images that are expressed by a m-point perspective method having m vanishing points ($n \geq m$) when viewing the images to be displayed from a specific viewpoint; and displaying the obtained images on each of the display surfaces, or the similar features recited in claim 18.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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